

LANDSCAPE TECHNICIAN

A student who has completed the Job Corps Landscape Technician program is equipped with the skills to contribute to the workplace as a valued employee from day one. Competence in academic and vocational skills is required for graduation. In addition, Job Corps students learn employability and technological skills. To complete his or her Landscape Technician training, a student must master skills in these categories:

SAFETY

Demonstrate safe use of hand, electric and gas power tools; demonstrate an understanding of first aid and fire prevention procedures; demonstrate the ability to place and climb ladders safely; demonstrate proper procedures to lift heavy equipment and materials safely; demonstrate an understanding of appropriate safety gear to be used in performing underlying tasks.

CHEMICAL SPILL READINESS

Demonstrate the proper use of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and "Right to Know" laws; demonstrate proper procedures to store gasoline and hazardous chemicals; read and follow agency/company policies and procedures manuals.

PESTICIDE USE

Identify two insects and the type(s) of insecticide(s) used to control each insect; identify one plant disease and type(s) of fungicide(s) used to control the disease; identify four weeds and type(s) of herbicide(s) used to control each weed.

INSTALL AND MAINTAIN SHRUBS, GROUNDCOVER AND TURFGRASS

Add mulch to newly seeded lawn and water until established; install weed barrier in an ornamental bed; add mulch to ornamental beds; remove weeds from ornamental beds with hand tools; plant annual, biannual and/or bulb flowers; plant, fertilize and prune shrubs; identify and locate 10 shrubs or groundcover in the landscape; identify one turfgrass; irrigate lawns and planted areas; aerate turf with a power aerator; dethatch turf with a power dethatcher; revitalize worn turfgrass with seed or sod; plant groundcover.

TREE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

Plant trees; identify five trees.

SNOW REMOVAL (WHERE APPROPRIATE)

Identify chemicals and procedures to clear icy sidewalks and streets; demonstrate procedures to remove snow/ice with a snow shovel, ice chipper and scraper.

MEASUREMENT, ESTIMATING AND DESIGN

Demonstrate the ability to use measuring tools to accurately add, subtract, multiply and divide measurements; demonstrate the ability to perform mathematical operations using whole numbers, fractions and decimals.

CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING FACILITIES

Clean leaves and litter from grounds with hand tools.

SPRINKLER AND LOW-VOLTAGE LIGHTING SYSTEMS (WHERE APPROPRIATE)

Maintain a permanent sprinkler system including cleaning plugged spray components on sprinkler heads and replacing broken risers and sprinkler heads; install an irrigation system including determining sizes and types of PVC pipe and fittings of sprinkler heads; demonstrate how to set three different automatic sprinkler controllers.

PREPARING AND IMPROVING SOIL

Haul and spread soil; prepare soil and apply organic and inorganic amendments; prepare an ornamental or lawn area for planting; demonstrate the ability to understand physical and chemical properties of soils; prepare and maintain a compost pile.

OPERATING EQUIPMENT

Sow seed with a hand seeder; edge hardscape areas with a gas edger; clean area with a gas-powered blower; remove debris from hardscape with a gas-powered vacuum; mow lawns with a 21-inch rotary mower; cut grass or weeds with a line trimmer; till soil with a rotary tiller.

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Lubricate equipment; check and change engine oil; clean and sharpen four different hand tools; clean and sharpen rotary mower blades; adjust idle speed on small engines; replace line-on-line trimmers; repair garden hoses; mix two-cycle gas and explain what equipment uses the mixture; check and tighten bolts and screws on power equipment; perform a circle check on equipment before using.

GREENHOUSE MAINTENANCE

Demonstrate safe use of tools and equipment used in a greenhouse; sow annual and perennial seeds; transplant seedlings; water plants in greenhouse; check and record daily environmental conditions in a greenhouse; record and keep inventory of plants in nursery areas; demonstrate procedures to clean a greenhouse; mix a soilless medium for container plants.